

The Examiner points to the terms “co-operation,” “closely,” and “so as” in claims 7-9. Applicants have amended claim 7 to eliminate the recitation “so as,” and have amended claims 8 and 9 to eliminate recitations of the term “closely.”

Applicants respectfully submit, however, that the term “co-operation” is not indefinite, as it is describing that the second binder layer and the first binder layer work together (“co-operate”) to seal the printed part. Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, “a second binder layer formed to seal said printed part in co-operation with the first binder layer.”

Applicants therefore believe that all claims, as presented, satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request for the rejection of claims 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. §112 to be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

2. Claims 7-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being unpatentable over Takeda et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,816,362 (“Takeda”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Takeda cannot anticipate claim 7, because it does not teach every element of that claim. See MPEP §2131, p. 2100-69 (quoting *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631 (Fed. Cir. 1987) (“[a] claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.”)).

Claim 7, has been amended to recite, *inter alia*, a resin panel comprising “a second binder layer formed to seal said printed part in co-operation with the first binder layer, the second binder layer contacting the first binder layer along a periphery of the printed part....”

Support for the amendment to claim 7 is found in the Specification, *e.g.*, at page 5, paragraph 4, lines 5-7; page 7, paragraph 5, lines 5-6; page 8, paragraph 1, lines 5-7 and in Figures 2, 3, 4C, 5A, and 5B.

In contrast, Takeda describes an optical recording card having a reflective layer. Takeda's card includes a recording layer 5 having light screening portions 4, light transmissive portions 3, and a reflective metallic thin film layer 6 that can act as a second recording layer. See Takeda, column 4, lines 56-64 and Figures 1-4. In the Office Action dated October 9, 2002, the Examiner referred to Takeda's substrate 2 as "a first binder layer," to the recording layer 5, as a "printed part," and to the reflective metallic layer 6 as a "second binder layer." However, even if the reflective metallic layer 6 of Takeda were able to adhere directly to the substrate 2, Takeda still does not teach or suggest doing so. Rather, the reflective layer is shown on the surface of the recording layer 5, with its edge flush with those of the substrate 2 and the recording layer 5.

Further, the Examiner stated "Takeda et al discloses ... a second binder layer formed so as to seal the printed part in co-operation with the first binder layer (figure 4 number 6)...." See Office Action at pages 2 and 3. Applicants respectfully submit that the positioning of the reflective metallic layer 6, in conjunction with the substrate 2, does not actually "seal" the recording layer 5, but leaves the edges of the recording layer exposed to the surrounding card substrate 8.

Accordingly, Takeda does not teach or suggest a resin panel comprising a first binder layer, a printed part and "a second binder layer formed to seal said printed part in co-operation with the first binder layer, the second binder layer contacting the first binder layer along a periphery of the printed part," as recited in amended claim 7.

Applicants, therefore, believe that claim 7, as amended, is patentable over Takeda. Since claims 8-14 depend from claim 7 they incorporate all of the features of claim 7. Since claim 7 is believed patentable over Takeda, so too are claims 8-14. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejection of claims 7-14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being unpatentable over Takeda to be withdrawn.

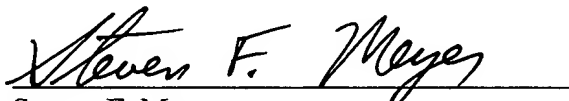
CONCLUSION

For these reasons, it is believed that all claims as presently presented are patentable, and that this application is in allowable condition.

Respectfully submitted,
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APPENDIX I**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claims 7-9 as follows:

7. (Twice Amended) A resin panel comprising:

a resin panel body; and

an insert film arranged on a surface of said resin panel body, said insert film comprising:

a resin film;

a first binder layer formed on the surface of the resin film;

a printed part formed on the first binder layer; and

a second binder layer formed [so as] to seal said printed part in co-operation with the first binder layer, the second binder layer contacting the first binder layer along a periphery of the printed part; and

wherein said resin panel body is integrally molded with said insert film by an insert molding so that a surface of the resin film of said insert film at the side on which a printed part is formed faces inside.

8. (Amended) The resin panel according to claim 7, wherein said resin panel body is directly adhered [closely] to said resin film at an outer side of the periphery of the first binder layer.

9. (Amended) The resin panel according to claim 7, wherein said second binder layer covers the periphery of the first binder layer to directly adhere [closely] to said resin film;

and

wherein said resin panel body directly adheres [closely] to said resin film on an outer side of the periphery of said second binder layer.